The Art Song Preservation Society of NY Where music speaks and words sing!

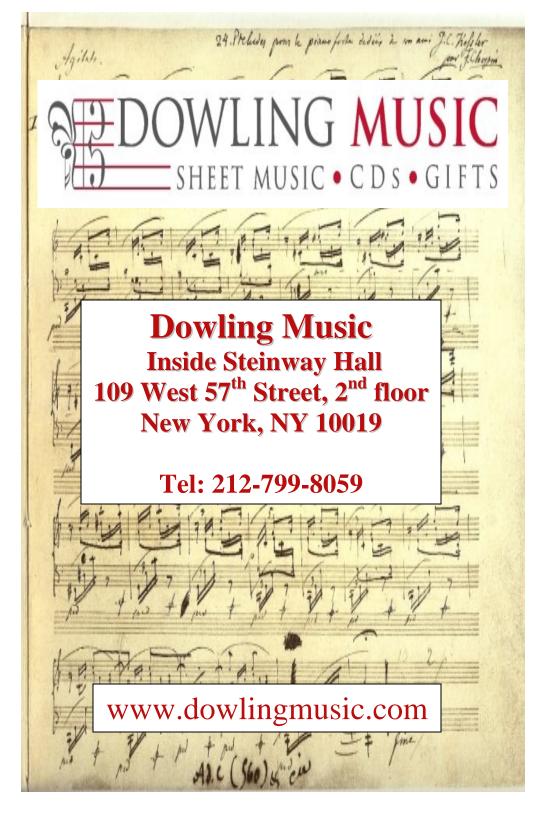


The Art Song Preservation Society of New York-Master Class Series Featuring The Songs of Christopher Berg Sunday, June 20th, 2010 1-5pm

www.ArtSongPreservationSocietyNY.org

The Art Song Preservation Society of NY (ASPS)

Is dedicated to preserving and revitalizing the art song while simultaneously promoting the art song recital. Through pragmatic monthly workshop discussions, educational lectures, a master class series, concert and recital competitions, performances, mentorship programs for singers and accompanists and community outreach programs for the broader public, ASPS plans to ensure that New York's classical singers, accompanists and art song enthusiasts always have access to performing and/or appreciating this area of classical vocal literature through the financial support of patrons and grants for the arts. ASPS also promotes the art song through showcasing the talents of a roster of singers who make up this unique art song company.



The photographing or sound recording of any master class or the possession of any device for such photographing or sound recording inside the theater, without the written permission of the Founder & Artistic Director of ASPS, is prohibited.



ASPS continues its master class series with a close look at works by American composer, Christopher Berg.



Christopher Berg, although self-taught as a composer, counts as mentors composers Robert Helps, Noel Farrand and Richard Hundley. He studied at the Manhattan School of Music where Helps was his piano teacher. Berg is known primarily as a song composer. Reviewing his twelve "Songs on Poems of Frank O'Hara," the American Record Guide said, "On the evidence of these songs, Berg may be an American Hugo Wolf." Steven Blier,

Artistic Director of the New York Festival of Song, has written, "Just as Poulenc illuminated the poetry of Apollinaire and Eluard . . . Chris Berg clarifies O'Hara . . . He musicalizes O'Hara's words with an expert sense of timing, a perfect balance of recitative and tunefulness and a dry sense of humor . . . Berg is able to carry on the traditions of Paul Bowles's perfect miniatures. In this subtle blend of music, words, and silence, he locates the poem's furtive sensuality . . . " The O'Hara songs date from 1985–88, and a number of them have been recorded by Paul Sperry (Albany CD). There are also recordings of "Poem" ("Lana Turner has collapsed!"), by Chris Pedro Trakas and Carl Halvorsen, and this song is also included in an anthology of "American Encores," edited by Paul Sperry and published by Oxford University Press. Among Berg's earlier songs are settings of Gertrude Stein, Stevie Smith (a cycle with orchestra, commissioned for and premiered by Janice Felty, called "Not Waving but Drowning"), Vladimir Nabokov (a cycle for high soprano, composed at the request of soprano Iris Hiskey), Tim Dlugos, and Nellie Hill. A number of these songs can be heard on an Opus One LP, sung by mezzo Janice Felty. Berg has also composed a Mass for soprano solo, chorus, and orchestra, two string quartets (one with voice in all four movements), a piece for English horn and actress (recorded by Thomas Stacy and Elaine Stritch on a Cala CD), "Five Russian Lyrics," for baritone and piano trio, on poems of Perry Brass, and anumber of works commissioned by the vocal chamber group, the Mirror Visions Ensemble. The New York Festival of Song featured his O'Hara settings on its opening concert of the 2003–04 season, "The New York Poets." Pianist Bennett Lerner is featuring his These include settings of texts by Lawrence Ferlinghetti, Erik Satie (a cantata on a section of his autobiography called "Intelligence and Musicality Among the Animals"), Robert Desnos, Stephane Mallarmé, and a 25-minute "Portrait en Miniature de Madame de Sévigné," first performed at the Musée Carnavalet, the Museum of the History of Paris, in March 2002 and re-engaged for eight more performances there in 2003.

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Many of these works are available on an Albany CD under the general title "Un Américain à Paris." The New York Festival of Song featured his O'Hara settings on its opening concert of the 2003-04 season, "The New York Poets." Pianist Bennett Lerner features his music in a 2003 world tour which took one major piano piece ("Ossessione: Hommagio a F[erruccio] B[usoni]") and four shorter ones to New York, Boston, Pittsburgh, Miami, Bangkok, Paris, and Tokyo. Lerner's subsequent recording of this repertoire was released on an Albany 2-CD set, "Music By My Friends." Berg has been the recipient of grants from Meet the Composer, American Music Center, The National Endowment for the Arts, the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund for Music, and has been a Yaddo fellow. His works are published by Tender Tender Music, distributed exclusively by Classical Vocal Repertoire. Berg's opera, "Cymbeline," based closely on Shakespeare's play was showcased in 2009 at the Opera Grows in Brooklyn series at Galapagos Art Space. He has most recently composed an orchestral rhapsody, "We Have Heard the Chimes at Midnight", commissioned and performed by the Santa Fe (NM) Community Orchestra, another orchestral work, "Love Letter (for Bastiaan)", two books of Nocturnes and Preludes for piano, "Two Poets, As Seen by Another," for baritone, bassoon and piano, on texts by Ilse Gilbert, commissioned by Downtown Music Productions in 2007, and "Four Episodes and an Epilogue, for cello and piano, commissioned for the Russian cellist Svetlana Kossyreva-Lishcke. A musical, Back Home: The War Brides Musical, which he created in collaboration with Frank Evans (lyrics) and Ron Sproat (book) has been produced in New Hope, PA, at the Spirit of Broadway Theater in Connecticut, and at the New York Music Theater Festival 2007.

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The Art Song Preservation Society of NY

Presents

The Songs of Christopher Berg



ASPS Singers & Songs

Delea Shand, Soprano: "A Literary Dinner" from the Nabokov songs
Joanna Dionis, Mezzo-Soprano: "The Visit" from Songs of Leisure
Lisa Flanagan, Soprano: "To You" from Songs on Poems of Frank O'Hara
Clayton Okaly, Baritone: "Theoretikos" from the Oscar Wilde Sonnets
La Toya Lewis, Soprano: "Aubade" from Not Wavering But Drowning
Bryn Aratyr Jimenez, Soprano: "Rain" from the Nabokov songs
Dominique Hellsten: Soprano: "A Discovery" from the Nabokov Songs
Bob Mollicone - Pianist

About Fractured Atlas

Mission



Fractured Atlas is a nonprofit organization serves а national community of artists and organizations. programs and services facilitate the creation of art by offering vital support to the artists who produce it. Fractured Atlas helps artists organizations and arts

function more effectively as businesses by providing access to funding, healthcare, education, and more, all in a context that honors their individuality and independent spirit. By nurturing today's talented but underrepresented voices, Fractured Atlas hopes to foster a dynamic and diverse cultural landscape of tomorrow.

www.FracturedAtlas.org



Quentin Bradley - Founder & President, MacForMusicians.com is devoted to showing musicians how to use their Mac to record their music, promote their art, book themselves and manage their business. Visit us at www.macformusicians.com

ASPS Workshops and Master Classes 2010 Calendar

January - Free Forum: Art Song Workshop: Two Songs in any Language 1/16/10, 1-3:30pm

February - Henri Duparc's Melodies 2/20/10, 1-3:30pm

March - Italian Art Songs Master Class Preparation Workshop 3/13/10, 1-3:30pm

March - Italian Art Songs Treasures of the Ages Master Class, 3/21/10, 1-5pm

(Master Class by guest artist, Corradina Caporello, Italian Vocal Lit. Coach, The Juilliard School)

April - The French Art Song Master Class Preparation Workshop, 4/10/10, 1-3:30pm

April - The French Art Song Master Class: 19th & 20th Century Composers 4/18/10, 1-5pm

(Master Class by guest artist, Thomas Grubb, French Vocal Literature Coach, The Juilliard School)

May - The German Lieder Master Class Preparation Workshop, 5/8/10, 1-3:30pm

May - German Lieder: Schubert, Schumann, Brahms, Wolf, Strauss and Mahler 6/6/10, 1-5pm

(Master Class by guest artist, Thomas Muraco, Coach/Accompanist, The Manhattan School of Music)

June - The Songs of Christopher Berg -

Preparation Workshop/Performance by Mr. Berg and David Krohn, baritone, 6/12/10 1-3:30pm

June - The Songs of Christopher Berg Master Class - 6/20/10 1-5pm

(Master Class by guest artist, Christopher Berg, Composer/Accompanist)

July - A Free Forum: Art Songs, Arias and Anything Else! 7/17/10. 1-3:30pm

August - Art Song and Aria Duets 8/21/10, 1-3:30pm

September - A Free Forum: Art Songs, Arias and Anything Else! 9/18/10, 1-3:30pm

October - The songs of Francis Poulenc Master Class Preparation Workshop 10/16/10, 1-3:30pm

October - The songs of Francis Poulenc Master Class 10/24/10, 1-5:00pm

(Master Class by guest artist, Dalton Baldwin, Coach/Accompanist, Westminster Choir College)

November - The American Art Song Master Class Workshop Preparation 11/20/10, 1-3:30pm

November - The American Art Song Master Class11/21/10, 1-5:00pm

(Master Class by guest artist, Paul Sperry, American Lyric Tenor, Joy In Singing)

December - Classical Karaoke, 12/18/10, 1-3:30pm

There is a \$15 entry fee to the monthly workshops and \$20 entry fee to the master classes with RSVP. Master Classes are \$25 at the door.

Workshops and Master Classes are mostly held at the Singer's Forum, 49 West 24th Street, 4th Floor, NYC

To RSVP for our monthly Workshops and Master Classes, please visit Meetup.com

http://www.meetup.com/The-Art-Song-Preservation-Society-of-NY/



The Art Song Preservation Society of NY

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Blair Boone - Founder & Artistic Director, ASPS

Hometown: New York (Originally, Houston, Texas)

Education: B.M. (Honors) Voice Performance, M.A. French Language, Literature and Culture, Syracuse University. Voice and Piano Accompaniment, The Strasbourg Conservatory of Music in Strasbourg, France.

Master Thesis-Henri Duparc: His Influence on the French Mélodie Remembrance Scholar Award, The SU Graduate Teaching Fellowship in French After graduating and moving to New York City, Blair began teaching French and coaching singers in French diction and the interpretation of the French Mélodie. He has given art song recitals representing such composers as Berlioz, Brahms, Debussy, Duke, Duparc, Faure, Hahn, Mahler, Poulenc, Schubert, Schumann, Strauss, and Tchaikowsky. Blair is the Founder and Artistic Director for The Art Song Preservation Society of NY and has studied voice with Mary Trueman (Rice University), JoElyn Walkefied-Wright (Syracuse University), Elisabeth Schroeder (The Strasbourg Conservatory of Music) and Lorraine Nubar (The Juilliard School) and has sung in master classes with Oren Brown (The Juilliard School), Phyllis Curtain (Yale and Boston University) and Norma Newton (American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria). Blair has also studied piano accompaniment with Mary Trueman and Steve Heyman

<u>Cristie Strongman</u> - Project Director, ASPS

(Syracuse University).

Hometown: New York (Originally, Panamá City, Panamá/ Kaiserslautern, Germany) Education: Voice Performance, The University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). Cristie performed extensively with The Italian Art Song Society under the direction of conductor, Dr. Lucy Scarbrough, (Founder and Artistic Director of The El Paso Chopin Music Festival), The International Festival de la Zarzuela, El Paso, TX alongside the late Metropolitan Opera soloist lyric baritone, Páblo Elvira and The Jarvis Conservatory in Napa, California before making her move to New York, to study with Metropolitan Opera soloists lyric tenor, Francisco Casanova and dramatic soprano, Atarah Hazzan. She has performed internationally in operas, oratorios, recitals, concerts and zarzuelas depicting the works of classical, contemporary and free form and experimental composers of operas, art songs and zarzuelas. She takes great pride in bringing music to diverse groups of people through the organizing and performing in outreach programs such as for The Educational Enhancement for Mothers and Daughters Program A.K.A. Mother Daughter Program (El Paso, TX) and the community of The Navajo Tribe (NM).

Funding is provided by the generosity of individuals and organizations who seek to cultivate the talent of musicians interested in the arts. ASPS has been incorporated and applied for 501(c)3 status. Until our 501(c)(3) status has been fully approved, any contributions and donations should be made through our fiscal sponsor Fractured Atlas: https://www.fracturedatlas.org/site/contribute/donate/3431 or by calling (212) 277-8020.

ASPS is very thankful for the support of the following donors who have made significant contributions to help ensure the organization's future.

Major Donors:

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To support *The Art Song Preservation Society of New York* please send an email to: <u>ASPSNY@gmail.com</u> or call (646) 263.7829.

Volunteer opportunities are also available!

Join our group of volunteers to help with our mailings, performances and senior outreach program and enjoy an educational and exceptional musical experience up close! Please contact Blair Boone or Cristie Strongman and let us know how you believe that you can best help as a volunteer.









www.TheArtSongPreservationSociety.org